

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 AS-01 /078 W
----- 067953

R 180910Z NOV 75
FM AMEMBASSY DACCA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8781
INFO AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY RANGOON
USLO PEKING
CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, PGOV, MILI, BG

SUBJECT: STIFF PENALTIES FOR UNDERMINING MILITARY DISCIPLINE

1. ON NOVEMBER 15, PRESIDENT AND CHIEF MARTIAL LAW
ADMINISTRATOR A.S.M. SAYEM ISSUED THE FOURTH AMENDMENT
TO THE MARTIAL LAW REGULATIONS (MLR'S) TO PROVIDE
STIFF PENALTIES FOR ATTEMPTS TO UNDERMINE THE DISCIPLINE
OF THE ARMED FORCES. THE AMENDMENT, RETROACTIVELY
EFFECTIVE TO NOVEMBER 2, PROVIDES FOR THE DEATH
PENALTY, TRANSPORTATION FOR LIFE, OR RIGOROUS IMPRISONMENT
UP TO 14 YEARS, PLUS POSSIBLE FINES AND THE FORFEITURE IN
WHOLE OR PART OF PROPERTY. THE REGULATION COVERS OFFENSES,
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ATTEMPTED OR ACTUALLY COMMITTED, AGAINST "ANY

OFFICER OR ANY MEMBER OF THE DEFENSE SERVICES, THE
BANGLADESH RIFLES, OR THE POLICE FORCE" AND IS APPLICABLE
TO ANYONE WHO:

- (A) IMPERSONATES ANY OFFICER OR MEMBER OF THESE SERVICES;
- (B) CAUSES "DISAFFECTION AMONG (THE SERVICES) OR PRE-
JUDICES, PREVENTS OR INTERFERES WITH THE DISCIPLINE
OF OR THE PERFORMANCE OF" THEIR DUTIES;
- (C) INDUCES ANY MEMBER OF THESE SERVICES TO "FAIL IN
THE PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTY";
- (D) BRINGS "INTO HATRED OR CONTEMPT OR EXCITES...DIS-
AFFECTION" TOWARDS THESE SERVICES;
- (E) SEDUCES ANY MEMBER "FROM HIS DUTY OR ALLEGIANCE
TO THE GOVERNMENT";
- (F) INDUCES ANY MEMBER "TO COMMIT MUTINY OR TO INDULGE
IN ANY ACTIVITIES PREJUDICIAL TO THE DEFENSE,
SECURITY OR INTEREST OF THE STATE OR IN ANY OTHER
ANTI-STATE ACTIVITIES."

2. COMMENT. THIS MLR AMENDMENT IS DIRECTED TOWARD
THE CURRENT INDISCIPLINE IN THE MILITARY AND THE AGITA-
TIONAL ROLE IN IT PLAYED BY THE JATIYO SAMAJTANTRIK DAL
(JSD). IT IS NOT, HOWEVER, A REGULATION UNIQUE TO THIS
MARTIAL LAW ADMINISTRATION. SIMILAR PROVISIONS WERE PART
OF THE MLR'S IN THE PAKISTAN ERA.
CHESLAW

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